



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Wednesday - August 27, 2003

- ***In the West***, scattered showers across the ***northern Rockies*** and ***northern Intermountain region*** are aiding wildfire containment efforts and locally boosting topsoil moisture reserves. Drought-easing showers also continue in the ***Southwest***, although local flash flooding remains a concern.
- ***On the Plains***, hot weather continues to stress pastures and immature summer crops, despite a recent increase in shower activity.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, cooler, drier air is overspreading ***northern portions of the region***. Although hot weather persists along and south of a cold front stretching across the ***southern Corn Belt***, showers are providing limited relief to drought-stressed summer crops in portions of ***Missouri*** and ***Illinois***.
- ***In the South***, hot weather continues to favor summer crop maturation, although scattered showers from the ***Delta westward*** are causing minor delays in harvesting and other late-summer fieldwork.

Outlook: Showers and thunderstorms will persist along a frontal boundary stretching from the ***central Plains eastward into the Mid-Atlantic States***, while cooler, drier air will settle across the ***Great Lakes and Northeastern States***. Farther south, scattered showers linger in the warm, humid airmass across the ***South***. Meanwhile, a disturbance will trigger showers and thunderstorms in ***northern portions of the Rockies and Plains***, while monsoon showers will persist in the ***Southwest and Great Basin***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for September 1-5 calls for cooler-than-normal weather across most of the ***central and eastern U.S.***, while above-normal temperatures will be confined to ***California and the Pacific Northwest***. Above-normal precipitation is expected in the ***Southwest*** and along the ***East Coast***, while drier-than-normal weather is forecast for ***northern Rockies, northern Plains, and Midwest***.

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>